U.S. Application No.: 10/781,304

RESPONSE dated October 23, 2006

Dated: October 23, 2006

Reply to Election/Restrictions Requirement of 10/17/2006

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Since it is believed that claims 21-32 (process claims), claims 33-38 (apparatus for practicing the process) and claims 39-40 (product made by the process) are directed to the same invention, the Examiner is requested to withdraw the election/restrictions requirement.

Since this response is submitted timely, no extension fee should be required. However, in case of any fee may be required, please charge it to the deposit account 50-0951.

Favorable consideration and early issuance of an Office action on the merits are respectfully requested. Should further issues remain prior to allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

Yonghong Chen

Registration No. 56,150

AKERMAN SENTERFITT

222 Lakeview Avenue, Suite 400

West Palm Beach FL 33401 Telephone: 561.653.5000